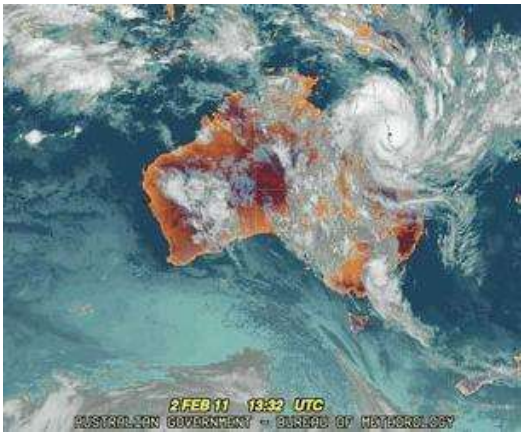
Severe Tropical Cyclone Yasi hits Queensland

02 February 2011 - Parts of North East Australia continue to be on alert as Severe Tropical Cyclone Yasi passes over Queensland.



Those travelling to Australia are advised to keep up to date with the latest forecasts from the Australian Bureau of Meteorology .

Heavy rain and damaging winds in excess of 120 mph in places have been affecting coastal and island communities between Cape Flattery and Prosperpine during the early hours of Thursday (local time), and are predicted to spread to other inland parts later on Thursday where the cyclone is expected to slowly weaken.

Although it has come ashore north of where the worst of the recent flooding occurred, Yasi is a large cyclone and so will affect a wide area including some of the previously flooded regions. The latest Met Office forecast maintains the cyclone well inland as a significant depression. Heavy rains are expected to continue as it moves towards central parts of Australia.

Using the Met Office Global Ensemble Prediction System (MOGREPS), the Met Office provides 15-day tropical cyclone forecasts of the most likely track of the storm and an understanding of the range of possible storm tracks. The system can also identify areas where a new storm is most likely to develop and then monitor the likely track of such storms.

Frequent updates are also available via @metofficestorms on Twitter.

The Met Office is providing forecasts to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, charities and other National Meteorological Services around in the world, to provide the best advice on the expected movement of Tropical Cyclone Yasi.

Travel advice for Australia from the FCO

Contact information

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